Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food

Crop Report

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Crop Report for the week of May 1, 2005

Saskatchewan farmers have seeded three per cent of the 2005 crop, compared to the five-year (2000-04) average of two per cent planted at this time, according to Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food's weekly crop report.

Nine per cent of the crop is planted in the southwest, four per cent is planted in the southeast, and one per cent is planted in the central grainbelt region.

Most areas of the grainbelt received trace amounts of rain and snow this past week, but very little measurable precipitation. Topsoil moisture conditions are reported as adequate across the majority of the grainbelt. Some areas are experiencing drying caused by the winds.

The May 1, 2005 Stubble Subsoil Moisture Map shows improvement from November 1, 2004 because of winter snowfall and spring rains. Most of the grainbelt is in good to excellent subsoil moisture conditions. Pockets of dry areas remain scattered from the northwest to the southeast.

Cool weather this past week halted field work across the province. Some pre-seeding fieldwork was completed, and it is expected that a return to warmer temperatures will bring a flurry of field work and seeding activity.

Some farmers continued with combining, baling, and burning of the 2004 crop that was left in the field over winter.

For further information contact:
Terry Bedard, P.Ag.
Agricultural Economist
Policy Branch
Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food
306-787-5956
e-mail: policybranch@agr.gov.sk.ca

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Seeding Progress in Saskatchewan per cent seeded

	All Crops
May 1/05	3
5-year Avg. (2000-04)	2
May 2/04	6
May 4/03	3
Apr 28/02	0
Apr 29/01	1
Apr 30/00	2

1 Year Ago

Saskatchewan farmers had seeded six per cent of the 2004 crop.

Strong winds caused soil erosion, particularly in west central areas.

Pastures and hay lands needed rain and warm temperatures to generate grass growth.

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South eastern Saskatchewan (Crop Districts 1, 2, & 3ase)

Last week in the southeast, it was cool and windy with traces of snow and freezing night time temperatures. An average of 1 mm of precipitation was reported.

Four per cent of the crop has been seeded in the southeast. Crop District (CD) 3ase reports almost 16% seeded, while CDs 1a and 2b report 2% seeded. Crops being seeded include peas, durum, and spring wheat. Farmers are waiting for warmer weather.

Topsoil moisture conditions on crop land have improved last week with 88% of reporters rating moisture as adequate, compared to 73% last week. On hay and pasture land, moisture conditions have deteriorated with 63% of reporters say they have adequate moisture, compared with 82% last week. Rain would be welcomed for surface moisture, and to ensure proper germination of small-seed crops.

Subsoil moisture improved in the southeast from November 1, 2004. The region is showing good to very good subsoil moisture levels with some fair areas and one pocket of poor subsoil moisture in CD 3ase.

Some fieldwork was done during the past week, including fertilizer and chemical applications, rock picking, moving bales, harrowing, cultivating, and burning of straw. A little more combining was completed.

Localized shortages of flax seed and good quality wheat seed were reported.

South western Saskatchewan (CDs 3asw, 3an, 3b, & 4)

The southwest had a week of cool, windy weather with some snow flurries. An average of 3 mm of precipitation was reported. There are concerns that early seeded crops, grass, and hay could sustain damage from the frost.

Almost 9% of the crop has been seeded in the southwest. Crop District 3asw is 15% seeded, while CD 3an is 2% seeded. Crops being seeded include peas, canola, and lentils.

Topsoil moisture conditions on crop land are similar to last week with over 95% of crop reporters rating moisture conditions as adequate. Topsoil moisture conditions on hay and pasture land are also similar to last week, with over 85% of reporters rating moisture conditions as adequate.

According to the May 1, 2005 Stubble Subsoil Moisture map, conditions are fair to very good in the southwest – an improvement from November 1, 2004. There are two pockets of poor conditions in CD 3bs, one pocket in CD 3asw, and one pocket in CD 3an.

The cold weather halted much of the fieldwork at mid week. Farmers were applying chemicals and picking rocks. Additional harvesting was done in CD 3asw. Localized chemical shortages were reported in CD 3bn.

East central Saskatchewan (Crop Districts 5 & 6a)

The east central region had a cool, windy week with some snow flurries. An average of 1 mm of precipitation was reported. Strong winds damaged buildings in CD 6a. Alfalfa has been set back by frost.

Almost 1% of the crop has been seeded in the east central region. Peas and lentils are the main crops being planted. Some re-seeding of canola is expected in CD 6a.

Topsoil moisture conditions on crop land improved slightly from last week. Eighty-eight per cent of reporters rate topsoil moisture as adequate compared with 82% last week. There is some concern about moisture levels for shallow-seeded crops. On hay and pasture land, topsoil moisture conditions deteriorated as 75% of reporters say they have adequate moisture, down from 82% last week. Pastures need rain and warmer temperatures for good grass growth.

Compared to the November 1, 2004 Stubble Subsoil Moisture map, the May 1, 2005 map shows an improvement. The majority of the region is rated as having good to very good subsoil moisture conditions. An area of fair conditions with a pocket of poor conditions is located in CD 6a.

Fieldwork includes fertilizer application, rock picking, harrowing, spraying, and land rolling. Combines are moving again, and baling and burning of the 2004 crop is also being done.

West central Saskatchewan (Crop Districts 6b & 7)

The west central area was generally cold and windy during the past week with traces of snow. An average of 1 mm of precipitation was reported. There are concerns of setbacks and damage to alfalfa crops from the frost.

Almost one per cent of the crop has been seeded in the west central region. Crops being seeded include peas and spring wheat.

Topsoil moisture conditions on crop land are the same as last week, with 97% of reporters rating moisture as adequate. All reporters rate topsoil moisture conditions on hay and pasture land as adequate.

The May 1, 2005 map of the west central region shows a significant improvement over the November 1, 2004 map. Subsoil moisture conditions are rated as fair to very good. There is one pocket of poor conditions in CD 7b.

Spring fieldwork being done in the area includes harrowing, chemical and fertilizer application, rock picking, spraying, and straw burning. Localized shortages of granular chemicals were reported in CD 6b. More combining was completed this past week.

Cattle were being moved out to pastures in CD 7a.

North eastern Saskatchewan (Crop Districts 8 & 9ae)

A cold, windy week, complete with snow and freezing night time temperatures made up the weather in the northeast this past week. An average of 2 mm of precipitation was reported.

Less than one-half of one per cent of the crop has been seeded in the northeast. There are localized shortages of flax and canola seed in CD 8b.

Topsoil moisture conditions on crop land deteriorated slightly during the last week as the area of surplus moisture increased. Eighty-one per cent of reporters rated moisture as adequate. On hay and pasture land, 91% of reporters say they have adequate moisture, an increase from 81% last week.

There has been some improvement in the northeast from the November 1, 2004 Stubble Subsoil Moisture map to the May 1, 2005 map. The majority of the region is in very good subsoil moisture condition with a patch of good conditions on the west side.

Fieldwork early in the week included picking rocks, burning stubble, harrowing, and chemical and fertilizer application. More of the 2004 crop was combined or baled this past week.

North western Saskatchewan (Crop Districts 9aw & 9b)

The past week was cold and windy in the northwest with snow and sleet. An average of 2 mm of precipitation was reported.

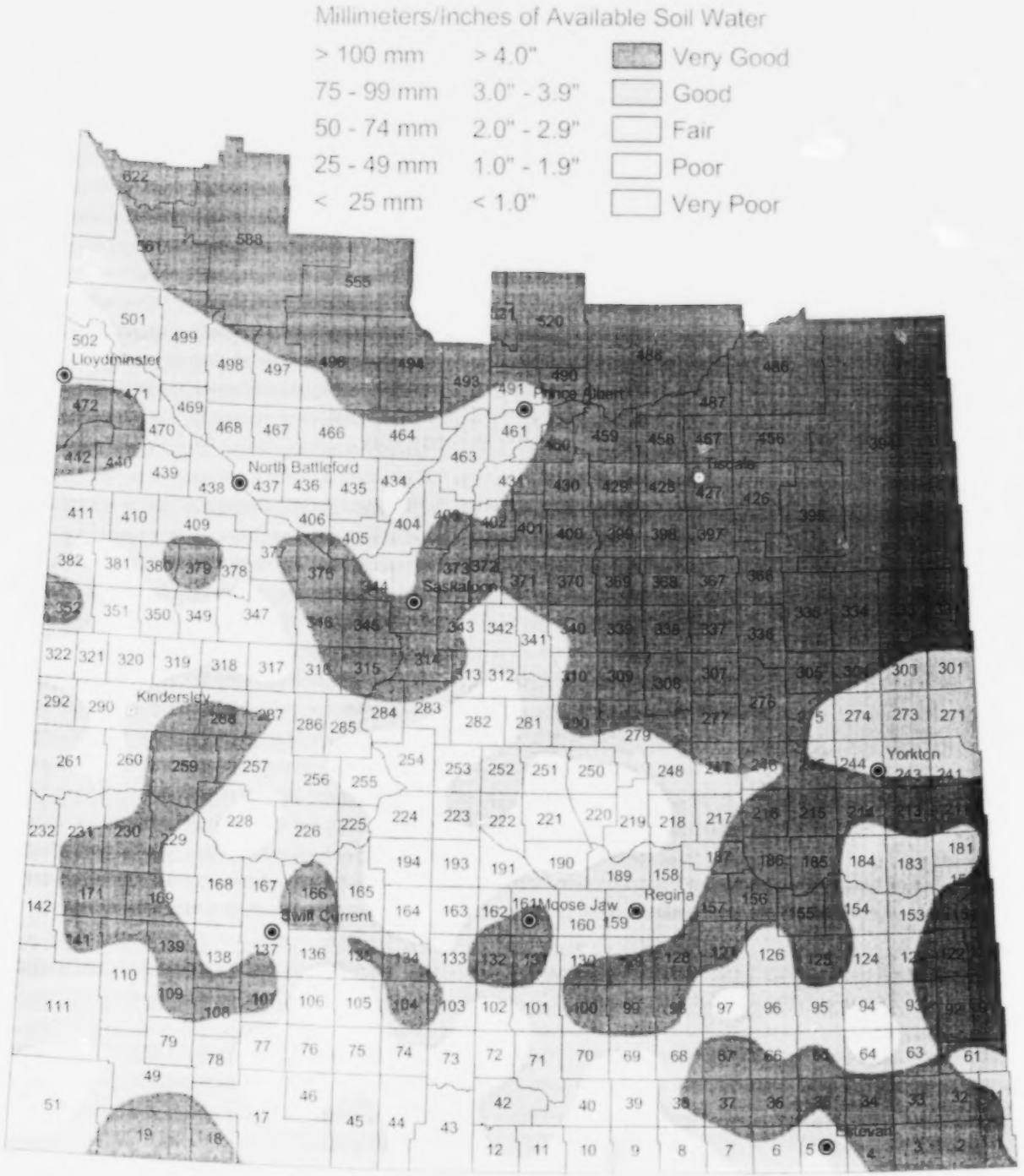
Less than one half of one per cent of the crop has been seeded in the northwest.

Topsoil moisture conditions on crop land deteriorated during the past week with 55% of reporters rating moisture as adequate, compared with 72% last week. The balance of the ratings was in the surplus category. On hay and pasture land, 86% of reporters say they have adequate moisture, compared with 82% last week.

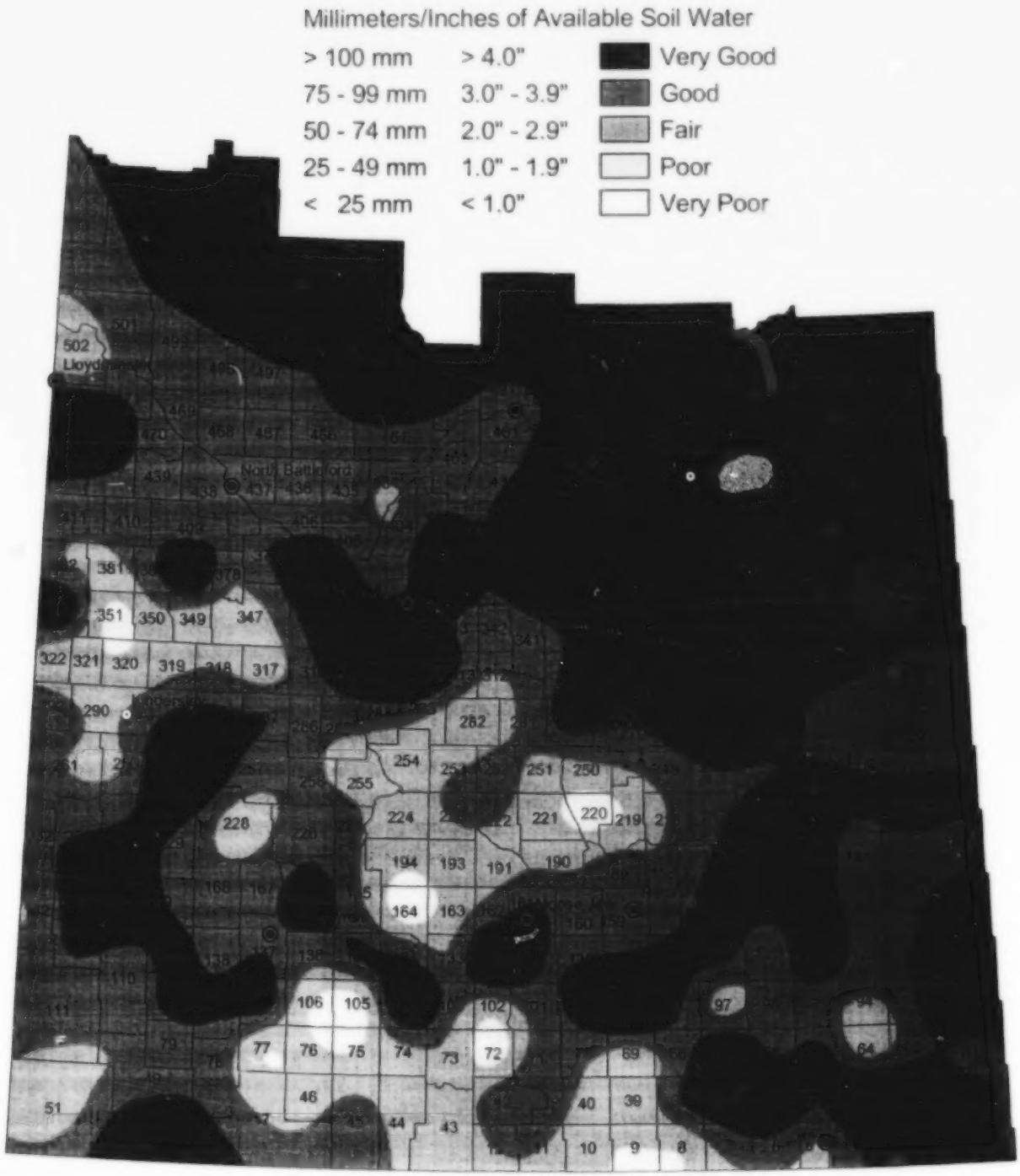
On May 1, 2005, the region showed generally good to very good subsoil moisture conditions – an improvement from November 1, 2004. There is a pocket of fair conditions on the east side and one on the west side of the region.

Harvesting of the 2004 crop continues. Wildlife and rodent damage was extensive in some of the crops. Fieldwork includes fertilizer and chemical applications and harrowing.

STUBBLE SUBSOIL MOISTURE MAP
MAY 1, 2005



STUBBLE SUBSOIL MOISTURE MAP
MAY 1, 2005



Weekly Rainfall Summary

(in millimeters)

for the week ending April 30, 2005

Crop Dist.	Municipality No.	Name	Past Week	Since April 1
1A	2	Mount Pleasant	NIL	8
	3 B	Enniskillen	TR	3
	34	Browning	NIL	6
	35	Benson	NIL	5
	63 A	Moose Mountain	TR	8
	64	Brock	TR	5
	65	Tecumseh	NIL	2
1B	92	Walpole	NIL	NIL
	95	Golden West	TR	5
	123	Silverwood	NIL	5
	124	Kingsley	2	7
	125	Chester	NIL	5
	151 A	Rocanville	2	11
	151 B	Rocanville	2	7
	153	Willowdale	TR	6
	154	Elcapo	TR	TR
	155	Wolseley	2	10
2A	36	Cymri	3	7
	66	Griffin	NIL	TR
	67	Weyburn	NIL	18
	68	Brokenshell	TR	17
	96	Fillmore	TR	2
	97	Wellington	TR	TR
	99	Caledonia	4	31
2B	127	Francis	1	3
	129	Bratt's Lake	2	21
	131	Baildon	TR	26
	156 A	Indian Head	NIL	1
	156 B	Indian Head	1	6
	157	South Qu'appelle	NIL	3
	158	Edenwold	2	2
	160	Pense	TR	10
	161	Moose Jaw	TR	15
	191	Marquis	NIL	15
3ASE	8	Lake Alma	2	6
	9	Surprise Valley	TR	TR
	38 A	Laurier	1	27
	38 B	Laurier	1	23
	39 A	The Gap	TR	2
	39 B	The Gap	3	5
3ASW	10	Happy Valley	1	2
	12	Poplar Valley	4	10
	40	Bengough	3	25
	42	Willow Bunch	6	29
	43 A	Old Post	4	13
	43 B	Old Post	0	7
	44	Waverley	2	14
	70	Key West	2	15
	71 A	Excel	TR	31
	71 B	Excel	4	31
	71 C	Excel	TR	27
	73 A	Stonehenge	NIL	3
	73 B	Stonehenge	5	17
3AN	101 B	Terrell	2	18
	102	Lake Johnston	1	26
	103	Sutton	NIL	35
	104	Gravelbourg	TR	10
	132	Hillsborough	3	18
	134	Shamrock	4	26
	193	Eyebrow	6	31
3BS	45	Mankota	11	23
	46 A	Glen Mcpherson	TR	10
	46 B	Glen Mcpherson	7	15
	75 A	Pinto Creek	TR	12
	75 B	Pinto Creek	NIL	12
	76 A	Auvergne	NIL	12
	76 B	Auvergne	TR	15
	77	Wise Creek	NIL	14
	78 A	Grassy Creek	1	19
	78 B	Grassy Creek	TR	12
	78 C	Grassy Creek	1	22
	105	Glenbain	TR	11
	106	Whiska Creek	4	12
	107	Lac Pelletier	TR	13
	108	Bone Creek	4	29
3BN	135	Lawtonia	0	17
	136	Coulee	5	30
	137	Swift Current	NIL	22
	138	Webb	6	37
	166	Excelsior	9	27
	167	Sask. Landing	2	30
	225	Canaan	4	9
	226	Victory	2	17
	228 A	Lacadena	4	26
	228 B	Lacadena	3	29
	256	King George	2	18
	257	Monet	4	35
4A	19	Frontier	1	20
	49 A	White Valley	NIL	18
	49 B	White Valley	4	49
	51	Reno	3	19
	79	Arlington	5	18
	109 A	Carmichael	TR	68
	109 B	Carmichael	4	51
	110	Piapot	5	70
	111 A	Maple Creek	10	40
	111 B	Maple Creek	5	78
4B	139	Gull Lake	2	41
	141	Big Stick	4	66
	142	Enterprise	7	51
	171	Fox Valley	2	53
	229	Miry Creek	3	30
	231	Happyland	TR	37
	232	Deer Forks	5	38
5A	152	Spy Hill	NIL	5
	181	Langenburg	NIL	6
	184 A	Grayson	TR	TR
	184 C	Grayson	3	6
	185	Mcleod	4	14
	186	Abernethy	TR	3
	187	North Qu'appelle	NIL	3
	213	Saltcoats	2	7
	214	Cana	NIL	10
	243	Wallace	2	7
	245 A	Garry	1	9
	245 B	Garry	NIL	15
	246	Ituna Bon Accord	TR	2
	247	Kellross	3	5
	248	Touchwood	4	7
5B	271	Cote	5	10
	276	Foam Lake	1	5
	277	Emerald	2	5
	303	Keys	2	2
	304	Buchanan	1	7
	307	Elfros	4	15
	308	Big Quill	TR	3
	335	Hazel Dell	2	14
	336	Sasman	1	8
	337	Lakeview	1	11
	338	Lakeside	2	9
	366 A	Kelvington	3	11
	366 B	Kelvington	3	16
	367	Ponass Lake	TR	7
	368	Spalding	NIL	3
6A	189	Lumsden	TR	12
	190 A	Dufferin	3	9
	190 B	Dufferin	NIL	1
	190 C	Dufferin	NIL	12
	220	Mckillop	NIL	2
	221	Sarnia	3	8
	222	Craik	2	13
	251	Big Arm	NIL	2
	252	Arm River	2	6
	279 A	Mount Hope	NIL	3
	279 B	Mount Hope	4	7
	280	Wreford	TR	TR
	281	Wood Creek	NIL	NIL
	282	Mccraney	1	12
	310	Usborne	NIL	NIL
	312	Morris	1	10
	313	Lost River	2	6
	339 B	Leroy	2	9
	340 A	Wolverine	NIL	2
	340 B	Wolverine	1	1
	343	Blucher	3	3
6B	254	Loreburn	1	16
	283	Rosedale	5	21
	284	Rudy	1	20
	285	Fertile Valley	1	17
	286	Milden	4	13
	314	Dundurn	4	16
	344	Corman Park	1	24
	345	Vanscoy	2	15
	346	Perdue	TR	40
	376 A	Eagle Creek	NIL	53
	376 B	Eagle Creek	NIL	45
	403	Rosthern	TR	4
	404	Laird	1	20
7A	259	Snipe Lake	TR	43
	260	Newcombe	1	23
	287	St. Andrews	1	36
	290	Kindersley	1	20
	292	Milton	1	29
	317 B	Marriott	3	53
	317 C	Marriott	TR	35
	318 A	Mountain View	1	28
	318 B	Mountain View	2	39
	319	Winslow	2	21
	320	Oakdale	2	26
	321	Prairiedale	1	31
	322	Antelope Park	TR	17
7B	347 A	Biggar	NIL	30
	350 A	Mariposa	NIL	13
	350 B	Mariposa	TR	22
	351	Progress	2	26
	352	Heart's Hill	5	40
	377 A	Glenside	4	51
	377 B	Glenside	1	41
	378 A	Rosemount	2	37
	378 B	Rosemount	2	36
	379	Reford	TR	34
	382	Eye Hill	2	27
	409	Buffalo	5	29
	410	Round Valley	TR	36
8A	395	Porcupine	3	12
	397	Barrier Valley	4	22
	398	Pleasantdale	3	26
	428	Star City	4	12
	456	Arborfield	5	10
	457 A	Connaught	7	20
	457 B	Connaught	NIL	4
	458	Willow Creek	2	15
	486	Moose Range	TR	11
	487	Nipawin	5	12
8B	369	St. Peter	1	5
	371	Bayne	TR	4
	372	Grant	1	9
	373	Aberdeen	2	11
	399	Lake Lenore	5	17
	400	Three Lakes	NIL	NIL
	401	Hoodoo	TR	3
	402	Fish Creek	TR	4
	429 B	Flett's Springs	1	12
	430	Invergordon	3	5
	431 A	St. Louis	0	3
9AE	461	Prince Albert	3	10
	488	Torch River	2	7*
9AW	405	Great Bend	2	18
	406	Mayfield	1	38
	435	Redberry	2	26
	436	Douglas	NIL	33
	463	Duck Lake	1	3
	464	Leask	4	16
	466	Meeting Lake	0	40
	467	Round Hill	NIL	38
	493	Shellbrook	2	4
	494	Canwood	3	24
	496	Spiritwood	6	31
	497	Medstead	TR	29
9B	438 A	Battle River	1	34
	438 B	Battle River	4	33
	440	Hillsdale	5	33
	442	Manitou Lake	1	23
	468 A	Meota	3	31
	468 B	Meota	2	8
	472	Wilton	2	33
	498 A	Parkdale	NIL	14
	499	Mervin	TR	64
	501 A	Frenchman Butte	3	49
	501 B	Frenchman Butte	NIL	52
	501 C	Frenchman Butte	2	13
	502	Britannia	2	26
	561	Loon Lake	3	45
	588 A	Meadow Lake	5	17
	588 B	Meadow Lake	2	43
	588 C	Meadow Lake	3	46
	588 D	Meadow Lake	3	29

These precipitation amounts represent point locations within each municipality and do not necessarily reflect the whole R.M.

* incomplete

Municipality No: A, B, C, and D - more than one reporter

Crop Districts
and
Rural Municipalities